

I07N Cruise Report – Week 0

Departed Durban (South Africa) on April 23, 2018, headed for I07N

The I07N cruise was initially planned to start in February, however, due to the ship's engine problems all cruises onboard the R/V Ronald Brown scheduled this year were postponed. Our departure date was shifted to April 23. Most of our scientific gear was loaded on the Brown while the ship was in Charleston and during a port call in Fort Lauderdale. Only the LADCP gear and some additional sample bottles were shipped to Durban. This made the mobilization in Durban relatively easy. All I07N scientist safely made it to Durban without delays. Half of the group came to the ship on April 20 and started setting up their lab spaces and equipment, and all scientists moved onboard on April 22, our official staging day. On this day, we also had our first All-Hands meeting, when all participants introduced themselves to the rest of the group, the chief scientist talked about the station plan and schedule for the first 2 weeks, and both the operations and the security officers did a 'welcome onboard' briefing. After clearing customs and immigration, we departed at 2 pm local time on April 23. So far everything is going smoothly and according to the schedule. Our next report will cover our transit towards the first station of I07N at 30°S and 54.5°E, during which we will do two test casts, deploy an Argo float, a wave buoy, and drifters.

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